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high water

a floodplain management newsletter

Volume 46

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

April 1992

Seminars Scheduled June 16

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MORNING SESSION FOR LENDERS

To better educate lenders on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and its mandatory purchase requirements, the NFIP will present a June 16 seminar that has been developed especially for lenders.

LOCATION	Missoula, Montana Village Red Lion 1-800-547-8010 (for out-of-town reservations)
DATE	Tuesday, June 16, 1992
TIME	Registration: 8:45 a.m. Seminar hours: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
COST	\$25 per person (must be paid in advance)

This seminar will focus on information that lenders will need in order to meet their compliance and risk management

responsibilities. All attendees will receive manuals and other informational materials. Questions from participants and group discussions will be encouraged.

AFTERNOON SESSION ON FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

During the seminar's afternoon session, DNRC's Floodplain Management Section staff will discuss various aspects of floodplain management.

LOCATION	Missoula, Montana Village Red Lion 1-800-547-8010 (for out-of-town reservations)
DATE	Tuesday, June 16, 1992
TIME	1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (following the lender seminar)
COST	FREE (no pre-registration required)

The floodplain management portion of the seminar will focus on the current regulations required for any development to be in compliance with a local community's floodplain management program. Again, group participation will be encouraged.

Please encourage anyone you know who may be interested to attend these seminars—especially your bank's lenders. Flood insurance requirements are now playing a major role in securing mortgages on properties located within a floodplain. For this reason, it is important to keep as many people as possible educated on the latest flood insurance requirements.

We welcome you to attend the seminar that would be most beneficial for you—or plan to attend both. Call Karl Christians at 444-6654 or Mr. Brom Hunt at (708) 790-9680 for more information or for a registration form for the lender seminar.

We look forward to seeing you on June 16!

Permit Check-off List

Floodplain administrators of communities regulated by the Administrative Rules of Montana are responsible for making sure that all necessary permits are received before a floodplain development permit is issued. According to the state model ordinance, a floodplain administrator is required to ensure that all permits are received from govern-

ment agencies that must be approved under federal and state laws and local codes, such as Section 404 of the federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 and the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act.

The following article concerns a permit check-off list that Yellowstone County floodplain officials compiled to

ease the burden of wondering whether a certain permit has been issued.

The permit check-off review sheet should prove to be a useful tool for floodplain management. Anyone interested in receiving a copy of the check-off sheet should call Karl Christians of the Floodplain Management Section at 444-6654.

The following article appeared in the February 5, 1992 *Billings Gazette*.

Paperwork for River Projects Eased

Watching a river run and floating it are perhaps the only things a person can do with a river without first getting a permit.

When it comes to almost any other activity, one permit, if not more, is usually required.

At least seven federal, state and local government offices and eight water regulations or acts can be involved.

The Yellowstone County surveyor's office is trying to make the process easier for people working in rivers and streams. The office, with help from the other agencies, has developed a check-off review sheet for the person seeking the permits.

"We feel that this should help the general public in letting them know where they need to go for project reviews instead of finding out they missed some reviews later

on," Surveyor Jim Logan said in a recent letter to other agencies.

The applicant is asked to furnish a site plan and other detailed information about the project. The check-off sheet also lists the seven agencies, regulations and provides a space for the various departments to sign and date indicating they have reviewed the proposal.

Logan said the form needs to be completed before the county can issue a floodplain permit.



Representatives for various agencies first met in early December to try to develop a more effective way to inform applicants of what permits are needed. Logan said people had a tendency to get one permit but not all.

The agencies involved include U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the Water Quality Bureau of the State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences; the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; the Water Rights Bureau, Floodplain Management Section of the State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; the Surface Management Bureau, Department of State Lands; the Floodplain Management Section, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation or the Yellowstone County Floodplain Administrator and the Yellowstone Conservation District.

Corps Sets New Fees

As directed by the Water Resources Development Act of 1990, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is instituting procedures to recover the costs of services provided to federal agencies and private persons under the Corps' Flood Plain Management Service (FPMS) program.

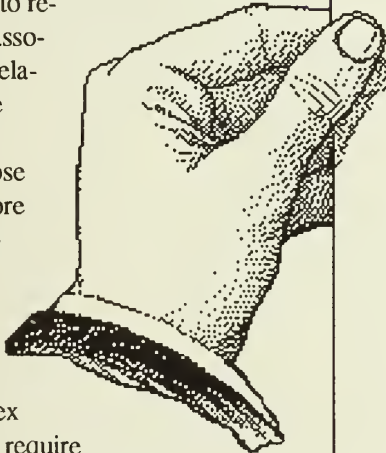
In the October 22, 1991 issue of the *Federal Register* (pp. 54712-13), the Corps published a final rule that sets forth a schedule of charges to be used to recover the costs of designated services. The schedule will be used to recover costs associated with relatively simple requests (for example, those requiring more than 10 minutes but less than one day to complete); more complex services will require negotiation with the Corps. At the same time, state, regional, and local governments or other nonfederal public agencies will continue to receive these services at no charge.

In order to establish this fee schedule, services to be charged have been divided into five levels (see table). As requests for services are received, the responding Corps office will designate an appropriate level number from 1 through 5, and services will be provided on a first-come, first-

served basis after payment has been received. The fee amounts listed will be reviewed each fiscal year, and, if necessary, the schedule will be revised after public notice and comment.

For further information, contact Jerome Q. Peterson, Flood Plain Management Services, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20314, (202) 272-0169.

NOTE: The December 1991 *High Water* published a new DNRC telefax number. To avoid any confusion, this new number—(406)444-0533—should be used for Water Resources Division and Floodplain Management Section correspondence only. The rest of DNRC will continue to receive telefaxes under the (406)444-6721 number.



Corps Fee Schedule

Standard Corps-wide Charges for FPMS Tasks

Level	Description of Work Requested	Fee
1	Basic information from readily available data that does not require either technical evaluation or documentation and is transmitted by form letter	\$ 25
2	Information from readily available data that requires minimal technical evaluation and is transmitted by form letter	\$ 55
3	Information that requires some file search, brief technical evaluation, and documentation of results by a form letter or by a brief composed letter	\$105
4	Information and assistance that requires moderate file search, brief technical evaluation, and documentation of results in a composed letter	\$165
5	Information and assistance that requires significant file search or retrieval of archived data, moderate technical evaluation, and documentation of results in a brief letter report	\$325

NFIP Biennial Reports Due

Each community that participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) should have received a "Biennial Report Form" from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the past several months. Each community's floodplain administrator is asked to complete the form as accurately as possible, making sure to correct any inaccurate information. Administrators should keep the last copy of the form and return the other four copies to FEMA in Washington, D.C.

This report is prepared to give both FEMA and the Floodplain Management Section in Helena an idea of any floodplain activity that has taken place within

the past year. The report also informs these offices of anyone who may need assistance.

We suggest that floodplain administrators complete and return these forms to FEMA as soon as possible. If anyone has any questions, please call Karl Christians at 444-6654.

Engineer's Position Remains Vacant

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) has made several unsuccessful attempts during the past few months to fill the Floodplain Management Section Supervisor (engineer) position. This delay has caused problems for several of the state's floodplain administrators who have

projects in the works that need to be reviewed by DNRC's Floodplain Management Section in Helena.

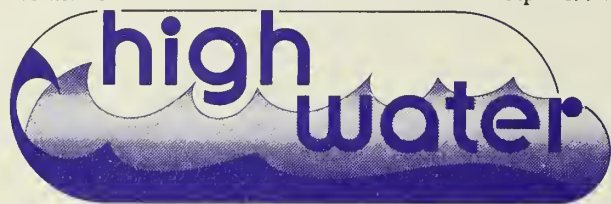
We apologize for the length of time it is taking to have your material reviewed. If any of the affected projects are limited by short time frames or deadlines, we suggest that an applicant hire an engineering firm to conduct the necessary technical review. Please contact Karl Christians (444-6654) first, however, to find out whether DNRC can do the review.

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